

REMARKS**Pending Claims**

Upon entry of this amendment, claims 1, 3-21 and 23-30 are pending. Claims 2 and 22 have been canceled. Entry of these amendments and consideration of Applicant's comments below are respectfully requested.

Drawings Objections

The Examiner has identified several items that he asserts do not appear in the figures. The Applicant, however, points out that each item does in fact appear in the drawings:

- The neutral electrode of claim 9 is shown in FIG. 7, reference number 9;
- The electrical conductive shield or casing of claims 12 and 13 is indicated in FIGS. 4 and 4a, as filed, by the dotted lines surrounding wires 12; the Applicant adds reference number 13 to the drawing for this element and has amended the specification to add this reference number; no new matter is added;
- In claim 11, the "ferromagnetic ring" has been amended to "ferrite core" which is describe in the specification at page 13, lines 24-26 and designated by reference number 109;
- The electrical switch of claims 16, 17, 23, 24, 25, 26 is depicted in FIG. 9 at reference number 204. Since the electrical switch is a relay, the switch also is mechanical. Therefore it is proper that the same reference numeral indicates the mechanical switch of claims 18 and 27.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §112

The Applicant has canceled claim 22 and amended claim 24 to address the Examiner's indefiniteness rejections. Claim 26 is amended through dependency to claim 24.

Art Rejections

The Examiner has rejected claims 14, 16-19, 22, 24, 26 as being anticipated by D'Amelio (US 4,823,791); claims 1-3, 6-8, 12-13, and 15 as being anticipated by Berube (US 6,471,696); claims 4-5 as being obvious in light of Berube in view of Baumgartner (3809846); claims 9-10 as being obvious in light of Berube in view of Lorentzen (US 5,955,546); claims 15, 23, 24, and 27-28 are rejected in light of Berube in view of D'Amelio; claim 30 as being obvious in light of D'Amelio; claim 20 as obvious in light of E'Amelio in view of Osakada; and claim 29 is rejected as being obvious in light of Berube in view of Osakada.

Independent claims 1 and 14 have been amended to include a recitation of the air cushion feature. The air cushion offers advantage by making it possible to optimize the dielectric constant between the line 12, in such a way that the capacitance of the cable per unit length falls or is lowered.

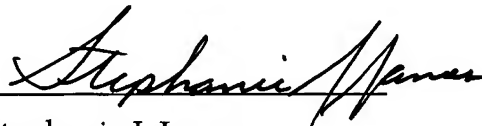
The Applicant respectfully submits, that none of the cited references show such an air cushion. The Examiner points to Berube for this feature. However, Berube does not show an air cushion between its lines 108 and 110. While it discusses electrically insulating the lines from one another, it does not show or suggest the use of an air cushion to accomplish this, nor does it discuss the advantages achieved by an air cushion. Therefore, the Applicant respectfully submits that the independent claims are patentably distinct over Berube and any combination of Berube with other cited art. All claims depend from claims 1 or 14, directly or indirectly, and are therefore submitted to be patentably distinct at least for this reason.

CONCLUSION

All of the claims remaining in this application should now be seen to be in condition for allowance. The prompt issuance of a notice to that effect is solicited.

Respectfully submitted,
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By its attorneys:

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